Application Number: 10/053,270

Docket: 14313 Reply to Final O.A. of October 21, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-17 (Cancelled).

18. (currently amended) A device for administering an injectable product from a reservoir, through a dispensing means, and into a tissue of a patient, the device comprising:

a casing for holding the reservoir;

- a suction chamber connected to the casing and adapted to abut against the tissue, the dispensing means terminating within the suction chamber;
- a piston pump comprising a cylinder, a piston, and a lock, wherein the rod displaces the piston within the cylinder to create a volume within the cylinder having a state of reduced pressure and the lock is adapted to lock the piston in place to maintain the state of reduced pressure;
- a passage interconnecting the suction chamber to the volume; and
- a cut-off valve located along the passage and adapted to isolate the suction chamber from the volume,
- wherein when abutting the suction chamber abuts against the tissue of a patient, the patient causes the cut-off valve opens-to place to open, which places the suction chamber and volume in fluid communication, thereby causing a state of reduced pressure within the suction chamber and bring bringing the tissue in contact with the dispensing means.
- 19. (previously presented) The device of claim 18 further comprising a delivery means adapted to cause the injectable product to travel from the reservoir, through the dispensing means, and into the tissue.

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20. (previously presented) The device of claim 18 wherein a longitudinal axis of the cylinder runs parallel and adjacent to a longitudinal axis of the casing.

- 21. (previously presented) The device of claim 18 wherein the lock is located on the rod.
- 22. (previously presented) The device of claim 21 further comprising a lock associated with the cylinder, wherein the lock located on the rod and the lock associated with the cylinder are adapted to lock together.
- 23. (previously presented) The device of claim 22 wherein the dispensing means is a needle.
- 24. (withdrawn) A method for administering an injectable product from a reservoir, through a dispensing means, and into a tissue of a patient, wherein the reservoir is held by a casing connected to a suction chamber, and the dispensing means terminates within the suction chamber, the method comprising:

displacing a piston within a cylinder to create a volume within the cylinder having a state of reduced pressure;

locking the piston in place to maintain the state of reduced pressure;

abutting the suction chamber against the tissue;

- opening a cut-off valve to place the volume and suction chamber in fluid communication, thereby creating a state of reduced pressure within the suction chamber and bringing the tissue in contact with the dispensing means.
- 25. (withdrawn) The method of claim 24 wherein the cut-off valve is opened by fully abutting the suction chamber against the tissue.
- 26. (withdrawn) The method of claim 24 wherein the piston is displaced by a rod and locked in place by a lock associated with the rod.
- 27. (withdrawn) The method of claim 26 wherein the piston is locked in place by interlocking the lock associated with the rod with a lock associated with the cylinder.

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28. (withdrawn) The method of claim 24 further comprising causing the injectable product to travel from the reservoir, through the dispensing means, and into the tissue.

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